

REMARKS

A Request for Continued Examination, and the requisite fee, accompany this paper for the purpose of removing the finality of the pending Office Action. It is accordingly requested that the above-noted claim amendments be entered and considered on the merits.

Claims 8, 20, 26, 28-30 and 32-37 are in the application, with Claims 8 and 20 having been amended, and with Claims 34-37 having been added. Claims 8 and 20 are the independent claims herein. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 102

Claims 8, 20, 26, 28-29, 32-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by the Buist reference.

To overcome this rejection, and in view of the Examiner's broad interpretation of the term "workspace", claims 8 and 20 have now been amended to recite that the issuer preference in question relates to the layout of a workspace that includes a plurality of windows. Support for this amendment is found at page 8, lines 18-21 and page 9, lines 11-14 of the specification of the present application. Applicants respectfully submit that the watchlist in Buist, upon which the Examiner relies, cannot satisfy the claimed layout of a workspace that includes a plurality of windows. It is accordingly requested that the rejection of claims 8 and 20 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Claims 26, 28-30 and 32-33 are submitted as patentable on the same basis as claims 8 and 20.

It is noted that new claims 34 and 36 both are dependent claims that recite that the user preference for the workspace prescribes a workspace that varies according to the day of the week. Support for this limitation is found at page 9, lines 3-10 of the specification of this application. Buist's watchlist does not amount to a disclosure of this limitation.

Also, new claims 35 and 37, which also are dependent claims, further narrow the independent claims by specifying that the user preferences include a color scheme. Again, Buist's watchlist does not disclose this limitation.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request allowance of the pending claims. If any issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions for expediting allowance of the present application, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned via telephone at (203) 972-3460.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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